Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ETRN, RO

SUBJ: JOINT ROMANIAN-SOVIET YAK-50-U PRODUCTION

- 1. DISCUSSIONS ARE WELL ADVANCED FOR PRODUCTION IN ROMANIA OF THE SOVIET-DESIGNED YAK-50-U TRAINER, ACCORDING TO A SOURCE IN THE SOVIET COMMERCIAL OFFICE IN BUCHAREST. A ROMANIAN DELEGATION LEFT FOR THE USSR A FEW DAYS AGO TO VISIT SOVIET AIRCRAFT FACILITIES AND DISCUSS FINAL ASPECTS OF CONTRACT. THIS VISIT FOLLOWS UP LAST YEAR'S EXCHANGE OF VISITS BY SOVIET AND ROMANIAN DELGATIONS. THE AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IS A SINGLE-ENGINE PROPELLER-DRIVEN TRAINER. ROMANIA WOULD BUILD THE ZO-PASSENGER VERSION.
- 2. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, PLANS CALL FOR PRODUCTION OR ASSEMBLY OF 2000 AIRCRAFT IN ROMANIA DURING THE 1976-80 PLAN PERIOD, EVENTUALLY REACHING AN OUTPUT OF WELL OVER AN AIRCRAFT A DAY. SALES WILL BE THROUGHOUT CEMA, INCLUDING TO THE USSR. TALKS AT PRESENT ARE ONLY BETWEEN USSR AND ROMANIA, BUT POLAND IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN BUILDING COMPONENTS
- 3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE SOURCE SAID PRODUCTION IS TO BEGIN NEXT YEAR, WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO SEE FURTHER DELAYS IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTRACT-SIGNING. AGREEMENT IS YET TO BE REACHED ON THE FUNDAMENTAL

QUESTION OF WHICH PARTS EACH COUNTRY WILL PRODUCE, WITH THE SOVIETS MAINTAINING ROMANIA IS NOT YET READY TO PRODUCE THE ENGINE AND THE ROMANIANS PRESUMABLY HOLDING OUT FOR AT LEAST EVENTUAL RIGHT TO MANUFACTURE ALL COMPONENTS. WE NOTE ALSO VOLUME OF PRODUCTION HAS BEEN REDUCED TO 2000 FROM THE ORIGINAL GOAL OF 3000 AIRCRAFT.

BARNES

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